

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LAW AND JUSTICE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:552
ANSWERED ON:02.03.2007
FOREIGNERS IN VOTER LISTS
Annayagari Shri Sai Prathap

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government is aware that a number of Pakistanis and Bangladeshis have managed to enroll themselves in voter's lists in different States of the country;
- (b) if so, the details thereof; and
- (c) the steps taken by the Government to delete their names from the voter's lists?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI H.R. BHARDWAJ)

(a) to (c): The Election Commission of India has intimated that it does not have the information as to whether Bangladeshi and Pakistani nationals have managed to enroll themselves as voters in any State/UT of the country.

No foreign national is eligible to be registered as voter in India. The electoral rolls for the territorial assembly Constituencies are prepared under the superintendence, direction and control of the Election Commission of India under the provisions of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 and Registration of Electors Rules, 1960. As per these provisions only Indian citizens are eligible for inclusion in the electoral roll. However, sometimes during intensive revision, summary revision or continuous revision, names of some ineligible persons who do not fulfill the qualification of Indian citizenship find their way into the electoral roll due to false information provided by the individuals. Whenever such cases of wrongful inclusion come to the notice of the Electoral Registration authorities, immediate action is taken to remove such names from the electoral rolls.

In the State of Assam, the electors whose citizenship is either doubtful or disputed, their cases are referred to the appropriate authorities for determining their citizenship status. Their names are, however, not deleted from the electoral roll but they are not allowed to cast the vote till the appropriate authorities favourably dispose of their cases. These electors are called 'D' voters and letter 'D' is marked against their entries in the electoral rolls to identify them.